AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend paragraph [0011] as follows:

[0011] The priorities associated with the data packets are fully pre-emptive. Thus, if there are four priorities from P_0 to P_3, priority P_0 is going to take immediate precedence over any other traffic at priorities P_1-P_3 and so on. This is definitely a feature necessary to be able to handle a mix of voice and real-time traffic along with "pure" data traffic over a single network. This guarantees that data for the ~~"pure" data traffic~~ voice and real-time type of applications are handled with no delay so that there is no latency other than the necessary minimum time to traverse the switch engine and, even more importantly, in order that no significant jitter be added to any flow of real-time packets. However, this is necessarily done at the expense of lower priority traffic which has, in case of congestion, to wait. Even if this is not a problem since the transfer of data files is normally insensitive to delay and jitter, a lower priority (e.g. P_3) may be completely starved by higher priorities (e.g. P_0-P_2).